

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Seventh Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Seventh Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.4% (595) reside in the Seventh Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (113) of Seventh Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 68% of admissions from the Seventh Norfolk Representative District were male and 31.9% were female.
- Over 53.1% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 69.2% of admissions were white non-Latino, 17.1% were black non-Latino, 6.5% were Latino, 2.5% were Asians, and 4.5% were other racial categories.
- 67.5% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 14.7% were married, and 10.6% reported not to be married now.
- 38.6% of admissions had less than high school education, 41.8% completed high school, and 19.5% had more than high school education.
- 31.2% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 5.5% of those admitted were homeless.
- 6.5% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Seventh Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Seventh Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	401	328	112	120	56	83	49
FY '96	382	301	93	116	75	120	75
FY '97	334	278	90	89	48	56	33
FY '98	462	396	123	134	71	110	72
FY '99	365	274	112	100	68	109	70
FY '00	460	352	120	112	51	116	77
FY '01	595	399	123	124	47	133	84

- Since dropping in FY 1997, residents of Seventh Norfolk Representative District reported a steady increase in heroin use.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 63%, and alcohol use by 21%, while crack use decreased by 16%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Seventh Norfolk Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	63.1 %	20.5%	6.3%	4.3%	1.5%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While marijuana as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol and cocaine as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and crack was lower within your District.